

Homesteading encompasses so much — self-sufficient living, growing your own food, and being mindful of the environment. For lots of folks, it can be overwhelming to get started. For those passionate about homesteading, attending conferences is an excellent way to learn from experts, connect with like-minded individuals, and discover new products and techniques. Here are the top 9 homesteading conferences you should check out in 2023.

The Top 9 Homesteading Conferences

The Modern Homesteading Conference: The Modern Homesteading Conference is a two-day event held in the picturesque Pacific Northwest that brings together the art of simple living and traditional skills. You'll be educated and inspired like never before as you learn about the latest techniques, tools, and technologies for sustainable living. With workshops on topics such as permaculture, renewable energy, gardening, and building, you'll learn how to live a modern homesteading lifestyle with people just like you. You'll be able to

bypass years of mistakes by learning from a wide variety of expert speakers. You'll be on your way to creating a productive homestead before you know it! If you've been looking for a large group of your kind of people all at the same place — if you've ever felt alone on this journey— you should sign up! This is a conference you won't want to miss! Here's more information.

The Homestead Festival: This festival is a celebration of all things homesteading. Have you always wanted to learn how to grow and your own food? Do you want to learn to harvest, cook and preserve that food? Do you want to raise chickens, or goats, or learn to milk a cow? Do you want to keep bees or start a flower garden? Do you hope to have babies at home, or homeschool them as they grow?

Do you want to build a more sustainable life?

You'll learn all this and more as you connect with other homesteaders and attend informative workshops. You'll learn from experts and homesteaders like Joel Salatin, Temple Grandin, and Jill Winger. Plus there will be some excellent live music. This year's conference is June 2nd & 3rd 2023 and promises to be incredible. Click here to learn more!



The Self-Reliance Festival: The Self-Reliance Festival gives you an up close-up and personal view of both strategic and tactical skills. Very practical demonstrations include emergency medical training, defense dogs, blacksmithing, aquaponics, permaculture design, and much more.

This event is designed for folks interested in self-sufficient living, but there's some crossover into the skills needed for homesteaders. If you're interested in learning these skills and want to connect with other like-minded folks, this is a conference you won't want ot miss! The conference is on March 25 & 26 in Camden, TN, and will have a wide variety of presentations, demonstrations, vendor exhibits, community, and music! <u>Click here to learn more!</u>

The Homesteaders of America Conference: HOA is specifically designed for homesteaders and is a tremendous place to learn about the latest techniques and tools for sustainable living. Join thousands of other incredible folks and skilled homesteaders for an excellent weekend of learning and fun. This year's conference is October 13th & 14th, 2023, in Front Royal, VA, and it promises to be incredible. With workshops and demonstrations ranging from milking goats to permaculture to beekeeping to home improvement, this conference is packed with information and is perfect for both experienced and novice homesteaders. Click here for more information!

Indiana Homesteading Conference: "The Indiana Homesteading Conference has a mission to support people in obtaining a more sustainable lifestyle and to promote homesteading skills for people at all levels of interest and skill." This wonderful event will happen this October 21-22, 2023, at the Marion County Fairgrounds. The conference will feature a wide variety of topics and skills. This annual conference is one of the largest and most comprehensive events for homesteaders. It features workshops, demonstrations, and keynote speakers covering a wide range of topics, including gardening, animal husbandry, and sustainable living. For more information, click here.



2023 Homesteading Skills Festival: The theme of this conference is: *Ten Steps To The Independent Farmstead*. Join a community of like-minded individuals in Bergholz, Ohio this May 26 & 27, 2023 to learn some of the most important skills in homesteading. The festival is hosted by the Healing Land, an Ohio-based non-profit "dedicated to providing ongoing education and mentorship in regenerative farm practices and homesteading skills." There is a wide range of topics covered, including the essential cow, chickens, pigs, goats, sheep, rabbits, bees, off-grid, gardening, bread-making, water systems, grass management, homestead kitchen economy, urban homesteading, and more! <u>Click here to learn more about the festival.</u>

Mother Earth News Fair: The Mother Earth News Fair brings together some of the most knowledgeable experts in homesteading and sustainability. Attendees can learn about a variety of topics, including composting, organic gardening, beekeeping, and renewable energy, all through hands-on workshops and live demonstrations. There's a fair in Lawrence, Kansas on April 29th and 30th, 2023 (click here for more info), and another in Erie, Pennsylvania on July 15-16, 2023 (click here for more information).

The National Sustainable Living Festival: For our Australian friends, here is a terrific event that will inspire and equip you to live more sustainably. "The National Sustainable

Living Festival is not just an event, it is a movement of change-makers. Its mission is simple: accelerate the uptake of sustainable living and address the global climate and biodiversity emergencies." Welcome to a celebration of all things sustainable. You'll learn all about organic gardening, renewable energy, sustainable living, and so much more, through workshops, demonstrations, and keynote speakers. *Note: this event has already happened in February 2023 — click here to learn more and keep up with any new events in Australia.

So there you go! No matter where you are in your journey, you can find the inspiration and knowledge to get you started or take you to the next level. The homesteading movement is gaining steam, and there are so many resources available! If you attend any of these homesteading conferences you will surely develop new skills, as well as some quality new relationships. With workshops and demonstrations covering a huge range of topics, these events are a great way to learn about homesteading and sustainable living, connect with like-minded individuals, and discover new products and techniques.

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Jeremy Kroening

Jeremy Kroening is the editor-in-chief of Homestead Living magazine. He lives with his wife and three daughters in St. Paul, MN. He's taken the first small step toward homesteading by planting a small garden and hopes to add some chickens to their world soon.